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A NEW *PEROMYSCUS* FROM WESTERN HONDURAS

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Among the mammals obtained by C. F. Underwood in Honduras are more than two hundred specimens of *Peromyscus*, representing four known species and an apparently undescribed form. The characters in this new mouse are so marked that it seems advisable to describe it as a distinct species.

Acknowledgment is due to Major E. A. Goldman of the U. S. Biological Survey who has kindly compared this new mouse with the series in Washington and has given me the benefit of his much valued opinion.

Peromyscus hondurensis, new species

Honduras White-footed Mouse

TYPE.—No. 126742, Amer. Mus. Nat. Hist.; adult, sex not given; Muya, a hill covered with second growth timber about 5 miles north of Chinacila, altitude between 3000–4000 feet, department of La Paz, Honduras; collector, C. F. Underwood, February 24, 1937. The type is a skin and skull in good condition. Besides the type there are two topotypes and six specimens from Cerro Pucca, Gracias.

GENERAL CHARACTERS.—A small, tawny white-footed mouse with moderately large ears, and tail about equal to the length of head and body. It is evidently allied to *P. lophurus* Osgood from Western Guatemala but larger with shorter pelage, paler color, and skull more rounded than the latter.

DESCRIPTION.—General color of upperparts cinnamon brown, darkened along mid-dorsal

line with an admixture of black hairs; sides of body bright ochraceous tawny mixed with black, becoming clear tawny along lateral line and on cheeks; a narrow dusky ring around eye; hind limbs blackish mummy brown above ankles, this color extending below ankle on upperside of foot; fore and hind feet white. Tail covered with fine short hairs, dusky above, whitish below; the line of demarcation fairly well defined; underparts including underside of fore limbs white with base of hair dark neutral gray.

MEASUREMENTS.—Type, topotype in parentheses. Total length 213 (215); tail vertebrae, 102 (107); hind foot, 24 (24), in dried skin 25 (25); ear, 17 (17), in dried skin 16.3 (14.5). Skull: greatest length, 29.4 (29.2); basilar length, 22.2 (22.2); length of nasals, 11.5 (11.8); zygomatic breadth, 14.7 (14.9); interorbital breadth, 4.7 (4.6); palatine foramina, 5.2 (5.4); maxillary toothrow, 4.8 (4.8).

REMARKS.—*Peromyscus hondurensis* is apparently related to *P. lophurus* but is somewhat paler in color with shorter pelage and nearly naked instead of well-haired tail; the skull is distinctly of the *lophurus* type but somewhat broader between the orbits, decidedly higher and more rounded. Specimens from Cerro Pucca, Gracias (6600 ft.), average longer tails than the type series and show a slight variance in cranial characters. The locality Humuya, La Paz, marked on the labels, is misnamed by the natives. The correct locality is Muya, Humuya exists but in another direction where Underwood did not collecting.

